Borough of Burslem.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,

FOR 1899.

BURSLEM:
ARTHUR H. HULME, PRINTER, WATERLOO ROAD.

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2017 with funding from
Wellcome Library

https://archive.org/details/b28966417

TO THE

SANITARY COMMITTEE

OF THE

BOROUGH OF BURSLEM

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present a report of the state of health, vital statistics, &c., of your Borough for the year ending December 31, 1899.

The area of the Borough amounts to 2,585 acres.

At the Census of 1891, the population of the Borough was returned at 31,199, calculating in the same ratio as for the increase in tbe ten years between this and preceding Census, the estimated population will amount to 35,527 in middle of 1899. From the large amount of new dwelling-houses erected during the last few years, however, there is good reason to believe that the above total for the population is much below the actual one.

In December, 1899, the number of inhabited houses was estimated to be 7,682, allowing 5·32 as the number of inmates apportioned to each dwelling, the population would amount to 40,868, a total which is probably nearer to the true estimate, than the previous one.

During the year 1899, the Births in the Borough numbered 1408, this was a larger total than in 1898 (1,362) or 1,897 (1,336), the Birth-rate for 1899 was at the rate of 39·6 calculated on the old estimate at the middle of year, or 34·4 on the new.

The Deaths in 1899, amounted to 818, giving a rate of 23·0 per 1,000 on the old calculation of population, and 20·1 per 1,000 on the new. In 1898 the Death-rate was 20·6, and in 1897 24·6 per 1,000.

The Infant Mortality in 1899 was, under 1 year of age, at the rate of 197 per 1,000 Births registered, in 1898 was 200, in 1897 232, in 1896 216. In 33 Urban District in England during 1899, the Infant Mortality under 1 year of age was equal to 181 per 1,000 of Births registered. In London the rate was equal to 167 per 1,000, whilst it averaged 190 in the 32 provincial towns, amongst which it ranged from 152 in Huddersfield, 154 in Croydon, 158 in Bristol, 159 in Halifax, 162 in Derby, and 166 in Swansea, to 206 in Manchester, 209 in Salford, 210 in Nottingham, 255 in Preston, and 269 in Burnley.

The Births and Deaths during 1899, were as follows :—

BIRTHS AND DEATHS, 1899.

1899.	BIRTHS.				DEATHS.			
	No.	Rate per 1000	Males.	Femal's	No.	Rate per 1000	Males.	Femal's
January	104	35·3	52	52	48	16·2	23	25
February	98	33·2	51	47	59	20·0	37	22
March	125	42·3	66	59	84	28·4	46	38
April	113	38·2	56	57	65	21·9	35	30
May	148	50·0	73	75	56	18·9	32	24
June	126	42·5	52	74	45	15·1	23	22
July	115	38·8	53	62	51	17·2	30	21
August	139	46·8	75	64	101	34·0	50	51
September	97	32·6	52	45	87	29·2	42	45
October . ..	82	27·5	41	41	64	21·5	28	36
November	149	50·0	81	68	93	31·2	49	44
December	112	37·6	58	54	65	21·8	25	40
Total ...	1408		710	698	~~878~~		420	398

818

DEATHS, 1899.

1899.	All ages.	under 1 yr.	1 yr. to 5 yrs.	5 yrs. to 15 yrs.	15 yrs. to 25 yrs.	25 yrs. to 65 yrs.	65 yrs. and upw'ds
January ...	48	12	12	...	5	9	10
February ...	59	22	9	2	1	20	5
March ..	84	21	10	6	2	34	11
April	65	14	13	2	1	24	11
May	56	21	4	5	3	18	5
June	45	15	6	1	2	16	5
July	51	19	3	2	3	15	9
August ..	101	58	11	5	3	11	13
September ...	87	39	20	2	...	21	5
October ...	64	15	9	5	2	24	9
November ...	93	26	24	6	4	22	11
December ...	65	16	10	4	2	28	5
Total ...	818	278	131	40	28	242	99

The Death-rate in England and Wales in 1899 was 18·3 per 1000, in 33 great towns 20·2, in Rural Districts of England 17·1. The rate of mortality in London during the year was equal to 19·8 per 1000, whilst it averaged 20·5 in the 32 provincial towns, among which it ranged from 15·0 in Croydon, 15·4 in Cardiff, 16·2 in Huddersfield, and 16·7 in West Ham, to 22·8 in Preston, 23·8 in Salford, 24·6 in Manchester, and 26 4 in Liverpool.

From Zymotic Diseases, during 1899, the Deaths numbered ~~126~~; 128 there being 1 from Measles, 21 Scarlatina, 4 Whooping Cough, 24 Diphtheria, 1 Continued Fever, 4 Typhoid Fever, 7 Influenza, 63 Diarrhœa.

The Death-rate from seven chief Zymotic Diseases in Burslem, in 1899, amounted to ~~1·4~~ per 1000, being 4·0 per 1000 in 1898 and 5·6 32 in 1897. The Zymotic Death-rate in England and Wales in 1899, was 2·19 per 1000. In the 33 large towns 2·81 per 1000, ranging from 1·50 in Halifax, 1·56 in Croydon, 1·65 in Derby, and 1·82 in Newcastle, to 3·93 in Preston, 4·32 in Salford, 4·35 in Burnley, and 4·39 in Sheffield.

Amongst Diseases of Constitutional origin were recorded 27 deaths from various forms of Cancer, 40 from Marasmus (all under 5 years), 43 Consumption, 2 Diabetes.

Amongst Developmental Diseases, were 30 Premature Births, 9 Teething, 9 Congenital Malformations, Old Age 35 (average being 76 years), 28 Atrophy and Debility.

Among Local Diseases, 21 deaths were reported from Affections of Brain or Membranes, 31 Paralysis, 3 Epilepsy, 50 Convulsions, (under 5 years), 1 Tetanus, 48 various diseases of Heart and Circulatory System, 165 Diseases of Respiratory System, 82 of Digestive System, 13 of Urinary System.

Deaths from violence included 9 from Fractures and Contusions, 8 Burns and Scalds, 2 Drowning, 1 Suffocation, 1 Suicide (by poison).

Causes of death were ill defined in 5 cases.

There was a marked increase in the number of cases and of the mortality, from Diphtheria during 1899; 86 cases having been notified during the year, as against 17 in 1898, 13 in 1897, and 11 in 1896, the deaths from it were in 1899, 24, in 1898, 6, in 1897 5, and in 1896, 6.

The cases of Diphtheria during 1899, were :—

	Cases reported		Deaths.	
	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.
January	...	3	...	...
February	1	3	1	2
March	2	1	1	1
April	..	1	...	...
May	...	1	...	...
June	1	1	1	...
July	1	3	...	1
August	3	3	...	1
September	2	4	1	...
October	8	13	3	4
November	5	8	3	1
December	10	12	2	2
Total	33	53	12	12

Diphtheria has been unusually prevalent during the year 1899, in the whole of the Pottery District; the prolonged damp and cheerless weather of the last three months of year contributing in a great

measure to its persistence; grave sanitary defects, due to choking of drains, badly conducted sewers, and blocking of waste water-closets, have been found in many of the houses where such cases occurred, and in many instances old accumulations of household refuse have been removed, the emanations from which appear to have influenced the presence of the affection.

During the year, flushing of the sewers and gullies has been carried out systematically.

The main sewers have been extended, and ventilating shafts have been erected in suitable positions.

All house drainage and sewage work has been done under efficient supervision; which will add materially to the healthiness of the dwellings.

The paving of back passages is still being proceeded with, and the making up of street-roadways is being pushed forward as rapidly as possible.

Provision of Public Urinals in various parts of the Borough remains a great and pressing need.

The water supply during year has been ample, and the quality good.

Overcrowding of dwelling-houses has been met with in 35 instances during the year, 3 legal prosecutions were instituted and led to the abatement of the evil.

The Slaughter-houses in the Borough have been inspected periodically during the year, and in two instances sanitary defects were found, and afterwards remedied.

The Bakehouses of the Borough were visited during the year, and were found to be in a satisfactory condition as a rule, although the bad position of many of them renders such difficult to maintain.

The Cowsheds, Milk Shops, and Dairies in the Borough have been looked to during the year, and their general condition found to be satisfactory. Pig-keeping has in some cases led to nuisance, which it has been necessary to have abated.

The Canal Boats passing through our length of canal have been supervised during year; some irregularities in observing the regulations of the Act were noted, and remedied without recourse to legal measures.

Under the Factories and Workshop's Act, many inspections have been made during the year, cases of insufficient closet accommodation and overcrowding, have been met with, and remedied, on complaints being made.

Removal of Ashes and Night-soil from houses has been done in a satisfactory way by the Corporation teams; the various tips of the Borough have disposed of a much larger proportion of the ashes than the Destructor, and a large quantity of the night-soil has been burned along with the ashes, though not equal to the amount deposited on land.

There have been during the year 600 conversions of Cesspools into W.C.'s, or Waste-Water Closets, 450 New Cottage Pans and Traps, 136 Waste-Water Closets, 14 Flush W.C.'s have been connected during 1899.

The Sanitary Inspector reports in his department during 1899 :—

No. of complaints received during year, exclusive of applications for removal of night-soil and ashes	25
No. of houses and premises, &c., inspected, about	2000
Orders issued for Sanitary improvements	1045
Houses and premises cleansed, repaired and lime-washed	102
Houses disinfected, after infectious diseases	224
House drains repaired, cleansed and trapped including provisions for kitchen slop stones	489
Privies and W.C.'s repaired, about	500
Premises without ashpits, where tubs and bins have been adopted and cleansed fortnightly	1150
Defective spouting repaired	75
Loads of ashes removed to Destructor in 1899 ...	3201
,, ,, Tips ,, ...	8303
Barrels and carts of night-soil removed to Destructor in 1899	1437
Ditto deposited on land	3561

Under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, there were reported in 1899 :—

	Scarlatina		Diphtheria		Typhoid Fever		Continued Fever	Erysipelas		Puerperal Fever	Membranous Croup	
	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs.	under 5 yrs.	over 5 yrs
January ..	16	25	...	3	...	4	...	...	1	...	2	...
February .	25	29	1	3	1	4	...	...	1	1	...	...
March ...	19	17	2	1	...	2	...	...	...	3	...	...
April ...	10	22	...	1	...	1	...	1	...	...	1	...
May ...	4	13	...	1	...	2	..	1	...	...	...	1
June ...	12	21	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...
July ...	7	24	1	3	...	1	...	...	1	1	...	...
August ..	19	19	3	3	...	2	...	...	1	...	...	...
September	12	31	2	4	...	6	1	...	2	...	2	...
October ...	23	42	8	13	...	11	1	...	4	...	...	...
November	24	35	5	8	...	6	...	...	3	...	2	...
December	15	17	17	12	...	4	...	...	4	...	...	...
	186	295	33	53	1	43	2	2	13	5	7	1

Of the above, there were removed to Sanatorium :—

			Deaths.	
	under 5 years	over 5 years	under 5 years	over 5 years
Scarlatina ...	37 ..	109 ...	2 ...	2
Typhoid Fever ...	1 ...	4 ...	1 ...	1
	38	113	3	3

Many cases could not be accommodated on account of the crowded state of Isolation Hospital in the autumn months.

SUMMARY OF DEATHS, 1899.

Specific Febrile, or Zymotic Diseases :—

Miasmatic Diseases	...	...	62
Diarrhœal ,,	...	...	63
Septic ,,	...	...	1
Parasitic ,,	...	...	1
Dietic ,,	...	...	3
Constitutional ,,	...	...	116
Developmental ,,	...	...	83

Local Diseases :—	
Diseases of Nervous System ...	113
,, Circulatory System ...	48
,, Respiratory ,, ...	165
,, Digestive ,, ...	82
,, Urinary ,, ...	13
,, Parturition ...	5
,, Bones and Joints ..	2
,, Integumentary System ...	3
Violence :—	
Accident or Negligence	22
Suicide	1
Ill-defined and not specified causes ...	35
	818

The Haywood Hospital, containing 31 beds, has continued to prove its usefulness to the working classes of the Borough and its vicinity.

No. of Patients admitted during 1899 ..	228
Surgical Cases	131
Medical ,, ...	97
Of whom were discharged, cured	172
,, ,, relieved	22
,, ,, incurable ...	3
,, ,, at own request ...	8
,, removed to Workhouse Infirmary	1
,, ,, Sanatorium ...	2
,, died ...	18
Remaining in Hospital, December 31, 1899 ...	21
Average number of days in Hospital for each paitient	34·6
Out-patients dressings	6165
In-patients operations	28
Sent to Convalescent Homes	16
Accident cases	56
Dental ,, ...	47

The Common Lodging Houses in the Borough have been systematically inspected during the year and reported to have been kept according to the bye-laws, thus rendering unnecessary any legal prosecution.

The following is a list of those in the Borough during 1899 :—

Gavin, Thomas	16	lodgers	2, High Street
Lamb, Michael	8	,,	53 ,,
Qualter, Simon	10	,,	1, Mayer's Bank
Hulme, Hannah	36	,,	83, High Street
Burke, Patrick	10	,,	27, Wellington Street
Jennings, Winifred	6	,,	23 ,,
Carty, Martin	6	,,	26 ,,
Bowen, Wm.	17	,,	27, Commercial Street
Total	109		

This number is much below that of former years.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. M. TAYLOR, M.O.H.

L.R.C.P., Lond., D.P.H., Camb., &c.

Burslem,

April 9th, 1900.

SUMMARY of SANITARY WORK done in the Inspector of Nuisances' Department during the year 1899, in the Urban District of Burslem.

	Inspections and Observations made.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances Abated after Notice.
Dwelling-houses and Schools :			
Foul Conditions	27	27	27
Structural Defects	75	75	73 clo'd 2
Overcrowding	35	35	32 pro. 3
Unfit for Habitation	2	2	1
Lodging-houses not under our supervision	96	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	60	—	—
Cowsheds	10	—	—
Bakehouses	44	—	—
Slaughter-houses	62	2	2
Canal Boats	248	37	37
Ashpits and Privies	641	641	641
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	27	27	27
Water-Closets	313	313	313
House Drainage :			
Defective Traps	4	4	4
Intercepting chambers put in during yr.	68	—	—
Other Faults	350	350	350
Water Supply	21	21	21
Pigsties	3	3	3
Animals improperly kept	38	38	38
Offensive Trades	1	—	—
Smoke Nuisances	6	6	6
Other Nuisances	108	108	105 pro. 3
TOTALS	2239	1689	1680

The ashpits belonging to 1889 houses have been disinfected with carbolic

	Nos.
Seizures of Unwholesome Food	1
Samples of Food taken for Analysis	—
,, ,, found Adulterated	—
,, of Water taken for Analysis	1
,, ,, Condemned as unfit for use	1

Precautions against Infectious Disease.

Beds and Mattresses Destroyed	150
Houses Disinfected after Infections Disease and 1 Ward of Haywood Hospital	224
Schools ditto ditto	2
Prosecutions for not Notifying Existence of Infectious Disease	1
Convictions ditto ditto ...	1
Prosecutions for Exposure of Infected Persons or Things	1
Convictions ditto ditto ditto	1

Feb. 22nd, 1900. WILLIAM MARTIN. Inspector.

(A) TABLE OF DEATHS during the Year 1899, in the Burslem Urban District, classified according to Diseases, Ages, and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.	Mortality from all causes, at subjoined ages.								Mortality from subjoined causes, distinguishing deaths of Children under 5 years of age.																
												Fevers.													
	At all ages	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards		Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Erysipelas	Measles	Whooping Cough	Diarrhœa and Dysentery	Rheumatic Fever	Phthisis	Bronchitis Pneumonia and Pleurisy	Heart Disease	Influenza	Injuries	All other Diseases.	Total
BURSLEM (Urban)	800	278	129	38	24	232	99	Under 5	19	12	12	...	1	...	1	4	57	...	1	50	...	1	2	247	407
								5 upwards	2	12	2	2	...	1	...	...	6	2	42	92	46	6	8	172	393
HAYWOOD HOSPITAL Burslem	18							Under 5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	2	...	2
								5 upwards	...	...	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	...	5	5	16
TOTALS ...	818	278	129	38	24	232	99	Under 5	19	12	12	...	1	...	1	4	57	...	1	50	...	1	4	247	409
								5 upwards	2	12	3	4	...	1	...	...	6	2	42	94	47	6	13	177	409

The subjoined numbers have also to be taken into account in judging of the above records of mortality.

Deaths occurring within the district among persons not belonging thereto.								Under 5															1		
								5 upwards															3		

(**B**) Table of POPULATION, BIRTHS, AND OF NEW CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health, during the year 1899, in the Burslem Urban District; classified according to Diseases, Ages and Localities.

Names of Localities adopted for the purpose of these Statistics; Public Institutions being shown as separate Localities.	Population of all Ages.		Registered Births.		New Cases of Sickness in each Locality coming to the knowledge of the Medical Officer of Health.							Number of such Cases Removed from their Homes in the several Localities for Treatment in Isolation Hospital.	
								Fevers.					
	Last Census	Estimated to Middle of 1899			Scarlatina	Diphtheria	Membranous Croup	Enteric or Typhoid	Continued	Puerperal	Erysipelas	Scarlatina	Enteric or Typhoid Fever.
BURSLEM	3199	35527	1408	Under 5...	186	33	7	1	...	...	2	37	1
				5 upwards	295	53	1	43	2	5	18	109	4
TOTALS ...	3199	35527	1408	Under 5 ..	186	33	7	1	...	...	2	37	1
				5 upwards	295	53	1	43	2	5	18	109	4

Is "Notification of Infectious Diseases" Compulsory in the District? *Yes.* Since when? *1st May, 1890*

Isolation Hospital at Bradwell, conjointly with Tunstall (Urban), and Wolstanton and Burslem (Rural) Sanitary Districts.